The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, securing in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

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AGITATE! EDUCATE! ORGANIZE!

VOL. 11. NO. 18. WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, JULY 23, 1921. WHOLE NO. 532.

VELVET GLOVE CONCEALS IRON ANTI-LABOR FIST : :

Every advance by labor is marked by three stages—open antagonism, alleged friendship with hostile design, and final acceptance.

These stages are clearly marked as labor develops power and ability to shape a substantial public opinion for the cause it pleads at that especial time.

When cornered the second stage is greed's favorite device. It may be termed the "velvet glove" period, and now confronts organized labor in the form of company "unions," which their backers call "industrial democracy" and "employees' representation."

Wage earners have forced practically all opponents to outwardly accept the principle of labor organization. Conspiracy laws have been annulled, and the men who no longer dare favor these laws organize company "unions" for employes. In every instance the employer holds the veto power over decisions by these "unions."

It makes no difference to these employers whether they deal with their workers as individuals, or through petty bosses, agents, or directly in its last analysis the employer is as much an autocrat as if no company "union" exists.

The company "union" bears no resemblance to trade unionism, either in form, spirit, or purpose.

The form of the company "union" is imposed on employes and does not grow out of their experience.

The purpose of this "union" is to retain boss control of wage earners while lulling them into the belief that they have a voice in their working conditions.

The spirit of the company "union" is paternal—the opposite to that which pervades trade unions.

Workers may be temporarily forced into these company "unions," but they will abandon them as truly as water seeks its level. They cannot be a substitute for trade unions because they are uneconomic and dishonest.

Social justice and improved working conditions is the trade union center of gravity, while company "unions" are formed by those who ignore every ideal and instinct in men who would better their lot in life.

Organized labor can shorten the "velvet glove" period of opposition to trade unionism by agitation, education and organization.

SHIFT TAXES TO POOR WILL BE BIG EFFORT

Washington, July 23.—The big effort of the profiteers will be to shift taxes to the poor, said Congressman Huddleston, of Alabama, in a speech in the house. He added that this "will be the great issue for the next quarter of a century."

"The rich are dissatisfied with their income and profits taxes," he said. "The profiteers and war contractors are not willing to pay for the war out of the millions they made. Nor are the banks and bankers are no more willing to give up one penny from their ill-gotten gains than if they had won them by honest and legitimate means. The fact that they overcharged the government for munitions and supplies; that they overcharged the people for the necessaries of life in the time of our nation's peril is no reason in their eyes why this burden of paying for the war should be placed on the shoulders of Profiteers, war contractors, big business, big finance, all the classes of wealth and privilege, will battle with all their resources to place the burden of paying for this war on the backs of the poor of the multitude and toil, of the plain people of this country. That is to be the great issue for the next quarter of a century.

The speaker called attention to a prediction he made in congress that mines-Esch bill was passed—that increases in rates would be based upon the inflated book values of the railroads, "with all the stealing and watered stock of crooked promoters. That very beginning of the railroad business."

"My prediction proved true," said the lawmaker. "The railroads were permitted to increase their rates upon the basis of their book value of $18,500,000,000. Upon that fraudulent valuation they were permitted to earn the 6 per cent return.

"Yet today you can go upon the stock exchanges in the United States and buy every dollar of stock of bonds and other securities of the railroads of the United States for less than $8,000,000,000. Accepting the market value of their stocks, bonds and securities as the true value of the railroads, they are receiving the right rates so as to raise their net earnings to 14 per cent. Think of it! No wonder business is strangled. No wonder the people are crying out against excessive railroad charges."

OIL CONTROLLED MAGAZINE.

New York, July 23.—Bankruptcy proceedings reveal that Leslie's Weekly, one of the oldest periodicals and vicious anti-union publications, was owned and controlled by Standard Oil. In publishing the "inside" story, the New York World shows that Leslie's was made public its Standard oil connection, though the federal law requires publication at least once a year of the names of known stockholders owning one per cent or more in newspapers and other publications.

The dummy for Standard oil in the control of Leslie's was the Real Estate company, an "inside" corporation of the Title Guarantee Trust company, which held control on Leslie's held by the latter company, was declared fraudulent by Federal Judge Hand. Standard oil found itself holding securities with no alleged value and which it purchased for $578,000. Wm. Green a publisher in this city, bought the stock for $200,000 and promptly recovered 24 per cent of its investment. Green personally bought the stock from Standard oil.

BELGIUM ACCEPTS 8 HOURS.

Brussels, Belgium, July 23.—The eight-hour day and six-hour week are established by law in this country. In a letter to the ministry of industry, labor and food, the king said:

"I have just ratified the hours of employment act, the result of long discussions in parliament and of an agreement for which I have chanmed and the senate have made a praiseworthy effort of conciliation. The eight-hour day and six-hour week will soon legally. It remains now to win it from an economic point of view."

The law urged greater production on the part of workers, and new methods on the part of employers that Belgium may export to sustain two-thirds of its population. This country, unlike Standard, has a third of its population, the remainder depending on industry and commerce.

MOONEY CASE WONT DOWN

New York, July 23.—The Mooney case will not down, says the New York Globe, which declares that "the case is of chief interest to the employing class because it showed so clearly the dangers, under American conditions, of criminal prosecutions, of what might be called legal lynching.

"It is important that justice be given Mooney, not primarily because it is unpleasant for him to spend his time in jail, but because otherwise the case will certainly serve as a pretext for legal lynchings.

"There is a certain type of American, often very influential and used to having his own way, who needs only a charge that his selfish desires clash with the law he cannot have his own way."

COULD CUT PRICES IN TWO.

New York, July 23.—The average large confectionery store could cut prices in two and still be able to make a substantial profit, said O. E. Fischer, official of the national confectioners' association, addressing the convention of that organization. Fischer declared that the high cost of prices, and are protesting against the profiteers. "Their merciless and selfish greed is going to be another long enough," said Pischer, "if they expect to sell goods, and if they make their greed and content themselves with reasonable profit."

DEFINE "AMERICAN PLAN."

Newark, N. J., July 23.—In an address in this city James O'Connell, president of the A. F. of L. metal trades department, and head of the so-called "American plan" as a method whereby "the plan is in the shop, but the Americanism is on the outside."

MACHINISTS' STRIKE ENDS.

Peoria, Ill., July 23.—Machinists have secured a satisfactory adjustment of their strike in commercial shops.

MEXICO ONLY INSISTS ON LAW OBSERVANCE

Washington, July 23.—If foreigners did not demand privileges from Mexico that are not accorded natives of the country, there would be less discord, says the Mexican Review, published in this city.

"Notwithstanding the persistently circulated statements that the laws of Mexico forbid any foreigner to acquire title to lands without first becoming a Mexican citizen," says this publication, "some 2,623 citizens of other countries, in the United States, bought lands in various portions of the republic in the year 1920. In the same period about 169 foreigners became naturalized as Mexicans. Of these 169 there were Chinese, 23 Germans, 16 Spaniards and 12 Japanese. Although the greater portion of the latter were Americans and British, only seven Americans and three of the latter were naturalized. As hitherto explained in this publication, there is not, to be trite, the only requirement as a condition precedent to the acquisition of lands in Mexico by foreigners. Is that they shall first sign a pledge to abide by the laws of Mexico, and in all matters pertaining to the lands in question shall be considered as on the same basis as Mexican citizens!

"This is the tacit requirement of all foreigners acquiring real property in the United States, as for instance the ownership of stock in the railroads, "with all the stealing and watered stock of crooked promoters at the very beginning of the railroad business."

"My prediction proved true," said the lawmaker. "The railroads were permitted to increase their rates upon the basis of their book value of $18,500,000,000. Upon that fraudulent valuation they were permitted to earn the 6 per cent return.

"Yet today you can go upon the stock exchanges in the United States and buy every dollar of stock of bonds and other securities of the railroads of the United States for less than $8,000,000,000. Accepting the market value of their stocks, bonds and securities as the true value of the railroads, they are receiving the right rates so as to raise their net earnings to 14 per cent. Think of it! No wonder business is strangled. No wonder the people are crying out against excessive railroad charges."

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WASTE OF INFANT LIFE.

Washington, July 23.—The federal children's bureau reports that through its system a seventh birth, and also deaths of infants, Pittsburgh had the largest infant mortality rate in the country. For every 1,000 births, and in the favorable ward only 81 per 1,000.

Nearly one-half of these babies died before they were one month old when deaths are largely due to natal and prenatal causes.

"The facts have demonstrated," says the report, "that such deaths are largely preventable through care and instruction given the mother before the baby is born, and through care of the baby at birth. Nearly one-fourth of the deaths were caused by gastro-intestinal disease, which from infancy causes occur for the most part in the heat of summer. They can be reduced greatly by instructing the mothers in the proper care and feeding of babies and through city supervision, such as a pure and proper handling of milk supplies."

PRICES HOLD.

Washington, July 23. — Retail food prices in June showed only two-tenths of 1 per cent lower than in May, according to the United States bureau of labor statistics. Sugar and granulated sugar dropped 7 per cent; fresh fish, 4 per cent; butter, 3 per cent; not margarine and butter, 5 per cent; evaporated milk, 4 per cent; fresh milk remained unchanged; and lard, 2 per cent; chuck roast, prices, round steak, 1 per cent; rib roast, bacon, canned salmon, fresh milk, bread, macaroni, baked beans, canned salmon, coffee and prunes, 1 per cent. Sirloin steak and potatoes, 2 per cent; cabbage and oranges, 7 per cent; canned peas eggs, 5 per cent flour and bananas, 6 per cent; onions, 9 per cent; leg of lamb and canned peas, 10 per cent; prices less than five-tenths of 1 per cent.

There were no change in the price of round steak, corn meal, rolled oats, bream of wheat, rice, navy beans and canned corn.

MEN QUITTING ARMY.

Washington, July 22.—Discharges from the regular army were requested by 20,000 enlisted men in the first 10 days in July, according to figures made public by Secretary of War Weeks.

When congress recently ordered the army reduced to 175,000 men it was objected to in some quarters on the ground that there is a moral obligation on the part of the government to let the men serve until their terms of enlistment expire. Advocates of a smaller army showed that the enlistment paper the soldier signs provides for honorable release him any time they see fit, and that this disposes of the moral obligation.

The number of men who are demanding their release seems to surprise army officials.

MUST PAY FOR INJURIES.

Oklahoma City, Okla., July 23.—Employers in this state must compensate injured employes whether or not they were at work at the time they were injured, the state supreme court has decided in a case brought by Mrs. Ollie Cook against the Cook Coal company.

The decision is based on the claim of an oil worker who quit his employment after more than 10 days seriously burned and the state industrial commission awarded him $15 a week. The associated employers fought the case for the employer and the court held that a worker was not expected to fight fires.

SUPPLY STRIKEBREAKERS.

Topeka, Kan., July 22.—The corporation farm bureau, a state-wide strikebreaking agency located in the Chemical building, St. Louis, has made its headquarters here, according to the secretary of state. The printing employers in this city, who are in need of skilled workers to replace employes striking to enforce the 44-hour agreement.

Secretary Jesse R. Louis concern discovery a strikebreaker and their source of income continues.

LESS COAL; MORE PROFITS.

Harrisburg, Pa. July 22.—Last year anthracite mines of this state employed fewer workers and produced less coal than in 1919, but the profit made per $71,256,898 more than in 1919.

BEGGARLY MILL WAGES AROUSE TEXAS EDITOR

Dallas, Texas, July 22.—Statements at the recent A. F. of L. convention that wages of from $7 to $9 for a 40-hour week are paid in southern cotton mills have aroused the Dallas News editor.

"Is the establishment of the mill industry in the south worth while price of reducing human beings to a wage scale of $7 to $9 a week under present conditions?" he asks.

"The statement may have been erroneous. If it is not, it should be. There are always possibilities of short sort. But, however that may be, the publication of these figures is a basis for considering whether the lowered standard values which will come of a sweated industry brought into southern life will not cost more than is gained. Could anything compensate for the consciousness that we have come even in part by the blood of child workers or the slow exhaustion of the life and health of adults?

"The suggestion is a challenge not only to a social conscience of the south but to the inventive genius and industrial management of the country. The south cannot and will not cannot exist without 'cheap' labor of the sort that is cheap. It is time that the cotton mill owner be converted to decency and a proper regard for human values. Surely the cotton mill cannot run without the exploitation of powers that will be better off without it. If, on the other hand, the mills now in the south can only run on a starvation refusal to accord to the workers their reasonable wage, it is time to find out why."

DEFEND OUSTED TEACHERS

Peoria, Ill., July 23.—Miners' union No. 454 protests against the dismissal of 11 public school teachers, and in resolutions forwarded to the school board declares that bigotry indulge in Americanisms that permit agents or big business should remember.

"The miners say that the teachers are ousted for apparently no other reason than that of belonging to a labor union and voicing their opinion on a matter of state government."

Therefore," the resolution continues, "we draw these subject matters to your attention: That their discharge is indecent and unjust, subsidized press that molded public opinion in a manner prejudicial to them.

"We are aware that organized labor does not constitute the only toilers of America, but they act of August 24, 1912, exempts it, and we claim that workers are slacking.

"Freedom of speech carries with it the right to be wrong and to be heard, if ordinary decency is observed.

"Closing the mouths of American citizens, says Baker of the police officer, is not good business in a free country. Repression has produced nothing but evil in this country, but on the contrary it has fomented it, and intolerance, radicalism and embittered the liberal."

EMPLOYERS BLAMED.

Trenton, N. J., July 22.—Acting an arbitrator in the railroad shopmen's dispute, Attorney Martin P. Devlin placed the blame for waste on employers, declaring that the workers do not claim that workers are slacking.

"Waste, however, is not recognized by all," said the arbitrator in his decision, "that the government controlled the railroads during the war were based on the cost plus system, which encouraged inefficiency and caused a large expenditure of time and money regardless of the labor returned for the amount. Such conditions demoralized the efficiency of the building trades and was largely due to the employers. It is now admitted by the employers that the building trades men are performing a day's work equal to the years preceding the war and that the profits of the employers the right to discharge any man who is either incompetent or inefficient. This leaves the remedy entirely in the hands of the employer."

COMPANY "UNION" FAILS.

Vancouver, Wash. July 23.—In their report to the convention of the state federation of labor, officials make this comment on two years' existence of the so-called loyal league of loggers and lumbermen

"The Timber Workers' union of the state has launched a campaign to complete this work of organization in that industry. The Four L organization proved the mirage all the time it was in existence, and had predicted for it as soon as it would be put to the test. It has utterly failed in its promise of protection to its members against the ruthless slashing of wages by the employers. Its members are disillusioned, and are now fully disillusioned and are flocking to the International Timber Workers' union."

ROUND UP TAX DODGERS.

Washington, July 22.—The government continues its war against income tax dodgers. It is reported these "patriots" were forced to disgorge $25,000,000. The internal revenue department states that many methods are used to evade the tax, but the associated employers are omitted from returns, while in others manipulated inventories are used. Where a partnership is kept, one accurately setting forth the state of the business and the other for the benefit of the government. The revenue department says that out of every 100 cases cases are quickly discovered.

BUSINESS MEN AWAKEN

Topeka, Kan., July 22.—The Kansas Trader Unionist interviews many business men who assert that when wage workers were caught in the high cost of living movement, but these business men have changed their tune.

The president of the Southwest Coal Operators' association at Pittsburg, Kan., declares "coal strike" court that the governor is chiefly responsible for the demoralized conditions of the coal industry in this state.

BIG INSURANCE PROFITS.

Philadelphia, July 22.—Thirteen leading fire insurance companies in this city have returned $14,324,000 profits in the last 10 years, according to statistics gathered by a fire insurance publication.

WORLD WAR DOOMED "MILITARIZED" LIFE

Manchester, England, July 22.—The world war has brought disasters to the drab existence and "militarized" life in industry as contrasted during years by the Manchester Guardian, which declares that "the war has been followed everywhere by a reduction of the working day."

This newspaper agrees to the evils of the housing situation and wage reductions, and says that blessings promised have not been forthcoming, "but the workers have won in every country as many hours a week from the life of factory as mine."

"What has been the driving force behind this demand?"

Militarist service had a resemblance to the industrial system in the sense that it imposed on many the same unrelenting power of a machine. During the war the men became part of the army often and they would give anything to get back to the old mill or the old mine. But when demobilized, the military life was just this contrast of their lives, and the industrial system has in this respect like military service, that it treated the worker as part of a machine.

"The experience of military service made many workers value even more of their lives for their own enjoyment and their own use, and the universal demand for a shorter working day was the result of this general impatience.

"The combination of agriculture and textile work, a bad economy in the use of land, and low production, was an admirable arrangement from the point of view of keeping the people variety of interest and exercise for their faculties.

"Does not the universal demand for the shorter working day spring from this desire to have more range and choice and initiative in one's own life? That desire inspired the late school holidays and the demand from weaver and the passionate protests of the Chartists. It is the same impulse that is education, and it has now become resolute and insistent with the experiences of the war."

CITE BRITISH WELFARE WORK.

Washington, July 23.—The $2,000,000 appropriation for maternity and child welfare centers was compared with the sum proposed to be contributed at hearings on the Sheppard-Towner bill by the house committee on interstate commerce.

Dr. Van Ingen of Columbia university declared that England could save 100,000 lives of needless deaths among mothers and infants in this country annually if that nation will economize everywhere else before acting on this activity.

Dr. Florence Baker of the New York board of health told the committee that the death rate among mothers in New York showed that high maternity death rates could be cut down to 1 per 1,000. She added, for permitting "criminal methods" to continue was not to be prevented," as proposed by the bill.

The bill provides for a fifty-fifty campaign of education between the government and states that accept the act. There is no provision for compulsion in the bill, and after a state accepts it and appropriates money for that purpose, any individual citizen may decline to accept its welfare facilities.

OPPOSE COOLIE LABOR.

Washington, July 23.—At a conference with the president, the Filipino commission protested against the proposed admission of Chinese coolies into the islands. The Filipino executive made the point that if this principle is established in Hawaii, sugar planters in this country will insist that they can get cheaper labor from Mexican peons unless they, too, are permitted to import these coolies.

The Filipino union executive took occasion to express to the president organized labor's wishes for the success of the proposed disarmament conference. There is now a representative of labor be included in the American representatives. General Pershing's petition that the labor movements of the invited countries be represented in the meeting in these countries ask their governments be attended the conference and to include a representative of labor in the respective delegations.

COSSACK LAWLESSNESS.

Williamson, W. Va., July 23.—The mountain-high evidence against cossack lawlessness in this state is overwhelming, declares the Public Protect, who runs a small grocery store in this city. He sold provisions to striking miners living in a tent colony, near the mouth of Lick creek, and was eight times arrested on state police and arrested. He was taken to this place and confined in the city prison, more than two score, of other persons being held there for three days "in a room affording merely standing room and without beds or chairs and denied communication with friends or relatives."

At the end of the four days he was discharged without any charge being made against him.

WILL HOLD OUT MONEY.

New York, July 22.—Wall street brokers do not share the glee of editorial writers and business prophets, agents that the $500,000,000 the government will pay the roads will be used to buy equipment and therefore stabilize business. The brokers point to the unsettled labor and unsentimental lines that instead of buying equipment they will pay their debts and hold on to the balance for working capital.

This means that with these railroads the bold of the money they will use it not for the benefit of "insiders."

REFUSE TO ARBITRATE

St. Paul, Minn., July 22.—Employing printers decline to act on the proposal to submit their differences over the 44-hour week be arbitrated. The state has also refused to accept arbitrary industrial disputes, but the employers and their expert backers will not accept this peace plan.

BREAK AGREEMENT.

Chicago, July 22.—The W. W. Kimball company has violated an agreement with organized elevator starters. Wages are cut $15 a month, the eight-hour day replaced by nine hours with no overtime pay.

COAL OWNERS' AUTOCRACY SHOWN BY SENATE PROBE

Washington, July 23.—"Organized mine workers are a band of robbers and the Baldwin-Felts detective agency is an angelic institution."

That was the way a coal owner in Virginia coal owners before the senate committee on education and labor that is investigating the Mingo county (W. Va.) lockout.

In answer to these wild generalizations the miners proved that when they joined the union they were discharged, although a state law prohibits such action by the coal owners. The law was further violated by the importation of gunmen who boasted of their "arsons and killings." The state laws requiring coal to be weighed and the placing of a check weighman on each tipple have never been obeyed in this field.

B. H. Kirkpatrick, former mine foreman for the Burnwell Coal and Coke company testified that coal owners "framed up" shooting episodes to procure proclamation of martial law by the governor and so they could break the lockout. The governor would call out the state, superior officers went into the hills around the mine entrance and shot over the heads of the imported mine workers brought into the field and the miners' cells on the hillside.

Fred Mooney, secretary-treasurer of miners' district No. 17, testified that the miners had been forced back to work if the coal owners would employ them without prejudice, and would not insist upon employing only nonunion labor.

"We have offered to work with nonunionists, we have offered to arbitrate other differences, and we have at all times, and now, agreed that a man can belong to a union, or not, as he sees fit," said Mooney.

Fred Ingram, a negro, testified that he worked in the mines for 20 years, was discharged and evicted from a company house when he joined the union. His wife is in Charleston and has been denied permission to visit her in the mining town. The witness said that the sheriff told him he could not communicate with anybody but God and "you'd better hurry if you want to do that."

In answer to the coal owners' attempt to show that it is possible for miners to earn from $400 to $700 a month in that field, witnesses for the union presented government reports which show that the highest yearly average wage was $1,046 in 1913.

W. E. Hutchison, a miner, said employees were forced to patronize company stores, which charged higher prices than similar establishments over the line in Kentucky.

"It is an open and known fact that union men will not be employed there now, then, and this is the real issue in West Virginia." Senator Kenyon replied.

"It is," replied Hutchison. "The mine owners tell us the moss can be killed by salting it, and the salary idle forever before they will employ union men."

FARMERS ARE LECTURED.

New York, July 22.—Farmers' organizations that are demanding legislative relief for agricultural industry are told by Secretary Edward A. Bradford has written a first page story in the Annalist, financial weekly, "A Plain Talk With the Farmers."

The following would indicate that the farmers will "get theirs." If have organized workers, these many years:

"Capitalists do not make prices with guns or torches, as farmers do in some cases, and when unionists use strong-arm methods they sometimes do not escape punishment. In the farmers have larger freedom from prosecution than other citizens, and yet they are always ready to call munities from laws binding other classes, and yesterday are conspiring to their wish to break laws designed for the common good, and who are little unless enforced on all. Possibly the strangest inconsistency of all is the farmers' appeal to government that they are discriminated against, and oppressed while are bearing the burdens of others."

The writer advises the farmers to "get out of debt" and to stop finding fault with banks when these institutions refuse credit.

REFUSE WAGE CUT.

Chicago, July 22.—Federal Judge Alschuler, arbitrator in the meatpackers' dispute, has refused the packers' demand for a horizontal wage cut of 5 cents an hour. Approximately 100,000 workers are affected by the decision. The arbitrator held that, while the cost of living are not as pronounced as employers claim, and in some cases has increased, that it is declining. Taxes, he said, are constantly mounting, street car fares remain 50 per cent above prewar prices, while gas, electricity and telegraph service, freight and passenger rates, and such essential foods as milk, bread and bakery products, fruits and meats show only slight decreases.

"MOLDING PUBLIC OPINION."

Philadelphia, July 22.—Can just how the public opinion is molded, while alleged "molders of public opinion" print such stuff as this which appeared in the Evening Public Ledger:

"The end of the coal strike is in sight. The Washington conference with the president, the Cabinet and Congress protested against the proposed admission of Chinese coolies into the islands. The Filipino union executive made the point that if this principle is established in Hawaii, sugar planters in this country will insist that they can get cheaper labor from Mexican peons unless they, too, are permitted to import these coolies.

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TENANT FARMERS STARVE.

Washington, July 23. — Tenant farmers in the south are facing the dreaded disease, known as pellagra, because of cotton conditions, says the United States public health service. Pellagra is caused by famine conditions. Most American cotton is raised on shares by tenant farmers who are "carried" by land-owning planters for about six months each year, during which time they are provided with food and clothes for themselves and their families to be paid for when the crop is sold in the fall. Last year's crop is still unsold, and with the cash received, and neither tenant nor planter have received money on which they depend inevitably there is pressure all down the line and the tenants, whose credit has been reduced to the disappearing point, are obliged to live on the very cheapest foods obtainable.

"These foods, salt pork, corn meal and molasses, valuable in their way when balanced by other foods, such as lean meat, eggs, milk and vegetables, lack certain elements that are absolutely essential to the maintenance of health. And the value of foods are beyond the purse of the tenants," said the public health service.

"Conditions have been getting steadily worse for months, and the cumulative effect is becoming obvious. It takes about five months of this particular kind of restricted diet before pellagra begins to manifest itself, but after that it does so with appalling rapidity, and the second stage is now well under way."

EDITOR'S DREARY YAWP.

Newark, N. J., July 23. — While thinking citizens reject the wild claims of industrial labor is responsible for present industrial conditions, the dreary yawp is repeated by L. T. Russell, editor of the Newark Ledger.

Because certain steel mills are operating full time, and the American steel mills but 20 per cent, the editorial exclaims that "the families very largely with American labor has refused to produce its utmost, that still believes it can create more jobs, etc., etc.

After revamping this hoary Parry-Post citizen's alliance stuff of 20 years ago, the editor throws a bouquet at the "industrial executives of the country," who cannot, he says, be charged with inefficient management.

Some friend of this editor should mail him a copy of the report made by the American society of engineers on the inefficiences of American management.

Some one should also remind this "moldor" of public opinion that the country is not operated on an avowed anti-union basis, with the 16, 44 and 8-hour day the rule. When this editor finds fault with that kind of labor he reflects the "open" boycott, which he and his kind persist in referring to as "open" shop.

BANKERS ARE BLAMED.

Chicago, July 23.—Bankers were diplomatically rapped on the knuckles by Daniel Crawford, jr., at the convention of the national association of real estate boards. The speaker is president of the Philadelphia operative builders' association.

"I believe," he said, "the bankers made a serious error in permitting the inflation that took place between the spring of 1919 and the spring of 1920. Had they put on the brakes when they found the speculative diminishing they would prevented much of the suffering that has been experienced during the year. Credit should be used to create among institutions that ordinarily frowned upon speculation a spirit of caution and inactivity that, if carried to extremes, will be quite as hurtful as over-extension was."

EMPLOYERS HAVE NERVE.

Duluth, Minn., July 23.—Employing department stores have an exceptional quantity of nerve in their plea for an injunction against printers, pressmen and bookbinders who are demanding that a 44-hour agreement be signed to. The employers say that the strikers are inducing strikebreakers to violate the existing contract. Representatives of printing trade unions, held in New York city, when the 44-hour week was agreed to.

The local employers now ignore the pledge and talk about the need for "living up to contracts."

UNIONS CHECK STRIKES.

Rochester, N. Y., July 22.—A committee appointed by Mayor Rodenbeck to investigate the lockout of building workers in this city gives little comfort to anti-unionists.

"Strikes are a misfortune," says the report. "Many associate the word strike in their minds with organized labor, but the fact is that the better the labor unions are organized in this city the more it has guaranteed immunity from strikes. This will be apparent to any person who will study the question. It is the expressed conviction of authorities competent to speak on the subject."

WILL PAY DELEGATES.

Lafayette, Ind., July 22. — By a vote of 24,500 to 466 the members of the Brotherhood of Painters and Decorators changed their constitution to provide that 2 cents a mile shall be paid as mileage to delegates to and from international conventions. The next convention will be held in Dallas, Texas.

MANY EGGS IN STORAGE.

Harrisburg, Pa., July 22.—More than 15,000,000 dozens of eggs have been placed in the 40 cold storage warehouses of this state during the last three months for next winter's release. On June 30, 15,243,153 dozens of eggs were in storage. The totals are the greatest in the history of the state.

NAVY BILL IS SIGNED.

Washington, July 23. — President Harding has signed the $410,000,000 navy bill. This is $50,000,000 increase of about $86,000,000 in the original estate figures and an increase of about $14,000,000 over those first advocated in the house.

LESS IDLE FREIGHT CARS.

Washington, July 22. — Idle freight cars in this country numbered 249,825 on July 5, a decrease of 4,266 over the week previous, according to the American railway association.

COAL OWNERS' AUTOCRACY SHOWN BY SENATE PROBE

Washington, July 23.—"Organized mine workers are a band of robbers and the Baldwin-Felts detective agency is an angelic institution."

That was the way a coal owner in Virginia coal owners before the senate committee on education and labor that is investigating the Mingo county (W. Va.) lockout.

In answer to these wild generalizations the miners proved that when they joined the union they were discharged, although a state law prohibits such action by the coal owners. The law was further violated by the importation of gunmen who boasted of their "arsons and killings." The state laws requiring coal to be weighed and the placing of a check weighman on each tipple have never been obeyed in this field.

B. H. Kirkpatrick, former mine foreman for the Burnwell Coal and Coke company testified that coal owners "framed up" shooting episodes to procure proclamation of martial law by the governor and so they could break the lockout. The governor would call out the state, superior officers went into the hills around the mine entrance and shot over the heads of the imported mine workers brought into the field and the miners' cells on the hillside.

Fred Mooney, secretary-treasurer of miners' district No. 17, testified that the miners had been forced back to work if the coal owners would employ them without prejudice, and would not insist upon employing only nonunion labor.

"We have offered to work with nonunionists, we have offered to arbitrate other differences, and we have at all times, and now, agreed that a man can belong to a union, or not, as he sees fit," said Mooney.

Fred Ingram, a negro, testified that he worked in the mines for 20 years, was discharged and evicted from a company house when he joined the union. His wife is in Charleston and has been denied permission to visit her in the mining town. The witness said that the sheriff told him he could not communicate with anybody but God and "you'd better hurry if you want to do that."

In answer to the coal owners' attempt to show that it is possible for miners to earn from $400 to $700 a month in that field, witnesses for the union presented government reports which show that the highest yearly average wage was $1,046 in 1913.

W. E. Hutchison, a miner, said employees were forced to patronize company stores, which charged higher prices than similar establishments over the line in Kentucky.

"It is an open and known fact that union men will not be employed there now, then, and this is the real issue in West Virginia." Senator Kenyon replied.

"It is," replied Hutchison. "The mine owners tell us the moss can be killed by salting it, and the salary idle forever before they will employ union men."

REJECT "COMPANY" UNION.

Omaha, July 23.—Organized butcher workmen have declared war on the meat packers' company unions, and will aid and abet those who affiliates with this boss-controlled outfit.

The butchers boast that their "union" will be the only organization in this industry after the Alschuler agreement ends. This agreement, which the government is a party to, was entered into when this country entered the war. It will expire in two years and, before the present depression appeared. The packers then asked that the agreement be abrogated at the end of one year. Before the end of the year after peace is declared. This proposal they are said to regret, though at that time they held the strategic position to improve conditions. Now they are trying to force are repudiated this agreement, and the butchers' union, while condemning the packers, favored a settlement that abrogates the agreement at the end of two years.

Organizers and have been performing their duties since that time. The packers' subsidiaries have attempt wage cutting when the agreement was signed. When Federal Judge Alschuler, acting as arbitrator, is automatically removed from their pails. They have been forced to have their personally' owned "union." Not a few of the proprietors are alert to this situation.

The packers' opposition to Judge Alschuler's decision is significant when that jurist rejected the proposal to cut wages 5 cents an hour.

WIVES STICK TO STRIKERS.

Washington, July 23.—Business men in this city have failed to break the spirit of striking carpenters into strikebreakers. Wages have been cut from $10 to $8 a day in a desperate effort to break the strike, the unionists' wives were appealed to.

The women not only declined to be a party to strikebreaking, but they wrote to the wives of the business men who signed the letter to them.

In their letter the workers' wives said:

"We as women must live and bring up our children under such conditions as will be most favorable possible. Would you want to run your household and bring up your family on a wage of less than $1 an hour in an industry where living conditions are suggested unemployment unavoidable? Do you think that we want to do so could you consistently urge that any other woman should be forced to?"

WANT GOVERNOR IMPEACHED.

Cannelton, W. Va., July 23. — At a mass meeting of five miners' locals in the Kanawha district the district miners' union were called to meet here next Monday morning, when the impeachment of Governor Morgan could be secured. The following resolutions against mine grievances."

The editor should be cited by the senate committee that is investigating the Mingo county strike. His knowledge is confidential, he is found to have been secured from some coal owner, and in the coming the inherited laws from 1000 of days in Europe when "Baron and Serfs" existed. Editors are usually direct with knotted clubs, cleavers and swords, would be substituted by the bill of rights and the constitution of the United States, secured to citizens in all other states of the union."

MORE MORTGAGED FARMS.

Washington, July 23.—Mortgaged farms in this country more than doubled between the years 1910 and 1920, the average amount of mortgage debt per farm for the United States in 1920 was $2,342 against $1,719 in 1910.

REJECT PENSION PLAN.

Atlantic City, N. J. July 22.—The convention of the Atlantic coast fishermen's hood of Operative Potters rejected a resolution providing for benefits to retired members from the retirement fund. The sentiment was strong for a pension fund, but not at the cost of the unemployment fund, which defenders claim is now carrying a heavy load.

IRON WORKERS MOVE.

St. Louis, Mo., July 22.—The offices of the Bridge and Structural Iron Workers' International association have been moved to the newly erected building on Grand avenue, all the records and other furniture was moved.